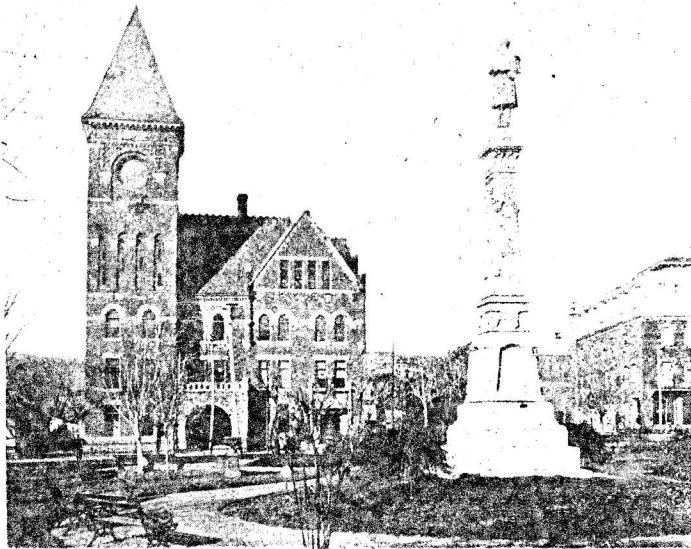


# Harrison House city landmark

In the May 13 issue of the NEWS we described the then new Anthracite Hotel as it was written about in the summer of 1894 and in the following issue, that of May 20, we gave a description of the then soon to be opened Hotel American as seen through the eyes of an 1894 reporter. The American at that time had everything of the most up to date; including its own electrical generating plant.

We interrupted the Hotel Series for a Memorial Day GAR feature last week, but there was a third Central City hotel which was a landmark in its day, the Hotel Harrison. This stood where the Miners and Merchants Bank building later was erected, the structure now occupied by the School District's administrative offices and the Mrs. Clean Laundromat. Following is a description of the Hotel Harrison as it did business when Carbon-dale was more than 70 years younger:

The first hotel of any pretensions erected in the city for the accommodation of the traveling public was the Harrison House, which was built in 1847 by a stock company of local business men. Benjamin Harrison was a member of the company and took charge of the hotel which was named after him. He conducted the establishment for eight years and then Ed Burnham, a popular boniface, conducted the hotel for a period of ten years. D.O. Jones was the next landlord and he presided over the fortunes of the establishment for nearly eight years. Ferguson L. Kiple next took hold of the house and conducted it successfully for three years when he removed from the city. Captain Michael Flynn was in charge of it for a year and a half and at his death his son, M.P. Flynn, conducted it three years and a half, making five years in which the hotel had been under the control of the Flynn's. George F. Jacobus conducted the hotel for the next five years and in 1888 removed to Scranton. About six months before Mr. Jacobus's retirement the hotel was purchased by Messrs J.E. and W.W. Watt, who sold it to John J. Monohan, the present landlord and proprietor.



Harrison House is at right.

## MONOHAN TOP HOTEL MAN

When Mr. Monohan purchased the hotel he immediately began a series of minor improvements which added greatly to the beauty of the building and afforded better accommodations and conveniences for his patrons. Under his management the business of the hotel increased and in the past twelve months over 18,000 persons inscribed their names on the hotel register.

Early last spring Mr. Monohan made a great change in the exterior of the hotel by enclosing the building with a brick wall or veneer and making several important changes in the office and reading room. An addition of 17 feet was built on the north side of the hotel and in the rear a modern laundry and drying room were added. There are 56 sleeping rooms in the hotel, all of which are comfortably furnished. A fire escape is placed in each room so that there is ample protection from fire. The hotel is four stories high and has two balconies. The trimmings are of blue stone.

The building is lighted throughout by electricity and is in excellent sanitary condition. It is located in the business portion of the city and is but a step from the Post Office, City Hall and the D&H Seventh Avenue Station.

The house is in better condition at present than at any time since it was built. The property is valued at \$40,000 and Mr. Monohan has changes in view which will greatly increase its value.

The popularity of the house is due in a great measure to the courteous treatment given the guests by Proprietor Monohan and his efficient assistants as well as to the excellence of the cuisine.

Diagonally across Main St. from the Hotel Harrison was Memorial Park, then a beauty spot but not many years previous to 1894 an eyesore. Following is the contemporary description of Memorial Park: